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STATE LEGISLATURE

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 23rd February 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Last grade staff in the Government House Estate

* 849 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of last grade staff and menials working under the Public Works Department in the Government House Estate in each category of—

(1) Sweepers,

(2) Scavengers,

(3) Gardeners, and

(4) Watchmen

and employed as contingency staff;

(*b*) for how long they are in the contingency list; and

(*c*) their present emoluments?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Seventeen sweepers, two scavengers, twenty-nine gardeners and two watchmen are working in the Government Estate and Rajaji Hall, Mount Road, Madras, under the administrative control of the Public Works Department.

" (*b*) For periods ranging from three months to about 8 years.

" (*c*) Varies from Rs. 33 per mensem to Rs. 50 per mensem inclusive of allowances."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, some categories of contingency staff are made pensionable in the Secretariat, Collectorate and other Government departments. Therefore, will the Government be pleased to see that the services of these employees also are made pensionable and are made permanent and they are given annual increment and house rent allowance? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, these people are paid out of contingencies in the various Government departments and this question was mooted last year and the Government decided in October 1954 to regularize their services in the next year. Their services will be regularized and when once they are regularized, these people will be eligible for pension and all other incidental allowances."

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SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" சர்க்காருடைய முடிவை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது வேலையில் இருக்கக்கூடிய அத்தனை பேரையும் 'கன்பர்ம்' பண்ணுவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆவன செய்வார்களா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I cannot off-hand say whether all of them will be confirmed. I think they are all necessary for that work and it is not likely that anybody will be asked to go away."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" How many of the number under item (1) sweepers belong to the fair sex and is there any age-limit with regard to their recruitment? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I can hardly expect the hon. Member will be so much interested in that question. If he is interested he can put a separate question and I can furnish all the details required by him."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" அடுத்த வருஷம் இந்தச் சிப்பந்திகளை நிரந்தரம் செய்வதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொன்னார்கள். அதற்கிடையில் கெஜட் பதிவில்லாத சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் கொடுக்கக் கூடிய கல்வி வசதியும், வைத்திய வசதியும் இக் கீழ்தர சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் கொடுப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Well, that is a separate question. They have not even approached us and it is only the hon. Member who speaks on their behalf."

Retrenchment of workers in Neiveli

* 915 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any communication has been received from the Regional Labour Commissioner, Madras, by the General Superintendent, Neiveli, on or about 1st February 1955 regarding the retrenchment of workers;

(*b*) whether any reply has been sent ; and

(*c*) whether a copy of the correspondence between the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Madras, and the General Superintendent, Neiveli, could be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) No, Sir. The remarks of the General Superintendent, Lignite Project, on the letter of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) have been received and they are under examination by the Government.

" (*c*) As the matter is still under consideration of the Government a copy of the correspondence cannot be placed on the table of the House in the public interest."